

said to Isaac, My son, it is you that I am going to sacrifice unto the Lord, for so



he has commanded me. I willingly consent, said Isaac; it is from God that I received my life, and I ought to return it him since it is his pleasure. Then Abraham piled up the wood, bound his son Isaac, put him on the wood, and took a great knife in his hand to cut off his head; but an angel of the Lord came and stopped his arm.

arm, and said to him, Do not kill Isaac. God only wanted to know whether you would both obey him. Then Abraham unbound Isaac, and, looking up, he saw a ram caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham took the ram, and offered him for a burnt-offering, instead of his son, and then they returned with satisfaction to their tent.

*Miss Harriot.* I was very much afraid, Mademoiselle, for poor Isaac; I thought he was going to be killed.

*Miss Julia.* But, Mademoiselle, it is a wicked thing to kill a man. How came God to command a wicked action?

*Mademoiselle.* It is not always a wicked action to kill a man, my dear. You know, that a great many are killed for being thieves and robbers. When people are at war, the soldiers kill their enemies without committing a sin. Besides, you see that God did not intend Isaac should be killed; and Abraham, who knew that God was just and wise, said within himself, since God has commanded me to do it, there can